

## REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action July 5, 2005. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

### Status of the Claims

Claims 2-5, 7-11, and 14-26 are under consideration in this application. Claims 1, 6, and 12-13 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 7, 10, 14-15, 18-19, 22, 24 and 26 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim applicants' invention.

The claims are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better disclose or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

### Formality Rejection

Claim 26 was objected to for various formal errors. As claim 26 is being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, the objection thus becomes moot.

### Allowed Subject Matters

Claims 7 and 14 would be allowed if they are rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As claims 7 and 14 are being rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, they are in condition for allowance.

### Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1 – 5 and 8 - 11 remained rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,665,802 to Ober (hereinafter "Ober") in view of the admitted prior art discussed in the specification (hereinafter "AAPA"), claims 6, 12, 13 and 15-26 remained rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) on the grounds of being unpatentable over Ober and AAPA, in view of US Patent No. 6,266,776 to Sakai (hereinafter "Sakai").

As claims 1, 6, and 12-13 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, the relevant rejection thus become moot. Claims 24 and 26 are being amended to incorporate the features recited in claims 1 and 6-7 so as to include all elements of the allowed claim 7. As to the other rejected claims, they are being amended to depend from the allowed claims 7 and 14 such that they are now in condition for allowance.

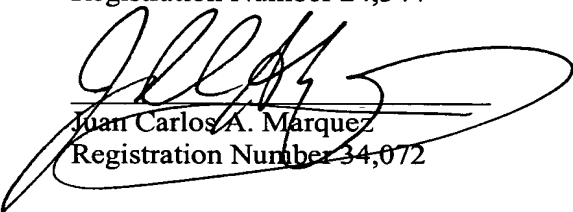
Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art reference upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicants respectfully contend that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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SPF/JCM/JT